

MASTERING DISTRACTIONS IN YOUR LIFE.

Sunday, January 1st, 2012

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1. SATAN WANTS TO DISTRACT US BY GETTING OUR FOCUS OFF GOD AND MOVING OUR FOCUS ON OTHER THINGS.

Luke 8:14-CJB

... As for what fell in the midst of thorns these are the ones who hear; ***but as they go along, worries and wealth and life's gratifications crowd in and choke them, so that their fruit never matures.***

Proverbs 4:25-Message Bible

Keep your eyes straight ahead; ***ignore all sideshow distractions.***

Distraction- is the *divided attention* of an individual from the **chosen object of attention** onto the **source of distraction**. Distraction is caused by: the lack of ability to pay attention; lack of interest in the object of attention. **A distraction is that which draws one in a different direction.**

Galatians 6:9-CJB

So let us not ***grow weary of doing what is good***; for if we don't give up, ***we will in due time reap the harvest.***

When you are at the point of exhaustion, it can lead to making the wrong decisions.

Luke 5:1-5-Amplified Bible

... NOW IT occurred that while the people pressed upon Jesus to hear the message of God, He was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret (Sea of Galilee).

2 And He saw two boats drawn up by the lake, but the fishermen had gone down from them and were washing their nets.

3 And getting into one of the boats, [*the one*] that belonged to Simon (Peter), He requested him to draw away a little from the shore. Then He sat down and continued to teach the crowd [*of people*] from the boat.

4 When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon (Peter), Put out into the deep [*water*], and lower your nets for a haul.

5 And Simon (Peter) answered, ***Master, we toiled all night [exhaustingly] and caught nothing [in our nets].***

2. SATAN WANTS TO DISTRACT US IN ORDER TO IMMOBILIZE (Bring To A Standstill) OUR FAITH.

Luke 5: 5b-7-Amplified...***But on the ground of your word***, I will lower the nets [*again*].

6 ***And when they had done this***, they caught a great number of fish; and as their nets were [*at the point of*] breaking,

7 They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and take hold with them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

KJV- "...***nevertheless at thy word*** I will let down the net.

The Scriptures Bible- "...***but at your Word***, I shall let down the net."

NIRV- "...***But because you say so***, I will let down the nets."

WNT- "...***but at your command*** I will let down the nets."

3. IN ORDER NOT TO BE DISTRACTED WE NEED TO PERSEVERE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

Patience - is the state of endurance under difficult circumstances, which can mean persevering in the face of delay or under pressure without acting on annoyance/anger in a negative way; or exhibiting forbearance when under strain, especially when faced with longer-term difficulties. To **be patient** means ***to be consistent***

James 1:3-4-Amplified

Be assured and understand that ***the trial and proving of your faith bring out endurance and steadfastness and patience.***

4 But let ***endurance and steadfastness and patience*** have ***full play*** and do ***a thorough work***, so that you may be [*people*] perfectly and fully developed [*with no defects*], lacking in nothing.

NLT-... *For you know that when your ***faith is tested***, your ***endurance has a chance to grow.****

CJB-...*for you know that the ***testing of your trust produces perseverance.****

4. IN ORDER NOT TO BE DISTRACTED WE NEED TO FOCUS ON THE PROMISES OF GOD.

2Corinthians 2:11-CJB

... so that we will not be taken advantage of by the Adversary — for ***we are quite aware of his schemes!***

Hebrews 10:23-the scriptures

... Let us hold fast the confession of our expectation ***without yielding***, for He who promised is trustworthy.

Amplified Bible: ...***So let us seize and hold fast and retain without wavering*** the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgement of it, for He Who promised is reliable (sure) and faithful to His word.

Nevertheless at thy Word/Because YOU say so...